FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 OCTOBER 1984

Egypt-Jordan

President Husni Mubarak's talks with King Husayn produced several "extremely important" results headed by an agreement to form a higher Jordanian-Egyptian committee to ratify and follow up programs of cooperation in various fields, the two sides announced in a joint statement broadcast by Amman radio. The talks will also enhance Arab solidarity, bolster efforts to confront difficulties over the Palestine question, strengthen support for Iraq in its "just battle," and give momentum to Arab efforts to help Lebanon overcome its problems by itself, the statement affirmed.

Commenting on the talks in remarks reported by Cairo radio, President Mubarak stressed that the restoration of diplomatic relations "does not mean that we should commit anyone to Camp David," and he added that Egypt seeks a comprehensive peace settlement "in any possible way." Mubarak, who had just returned to Cairo, also dismissed speculation about a unity agreement with Jordan, asserting that the two sides "did not discuss unity" but sought to "coordinate" in the interest of the Arab cause. Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz noted that the talks will promote high-level political coordination and facilitate trade exchange and travel, but he pointed out that "this does not mean there is unity because unity is regarded as an advanced phase," according to the radio.

Meanwhile, President Mubarak has approved Ihab Wahbah's nomination as Egypt's ambassador to Jordan, MENA reported citing the Egyptian foreign minister.

Israeli Policy on Lebanon

At a news conference in New York, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres announced Israel's willingness to withdraw from the Al-Biqa' Valley if the IDF is replaced by UNIFIL, Jerusalem radio reported. However, if Syria does not make its own position clear, "we don't have to withdraw simultaneously from all parts of Lebanon," he stated in remarks broadcast by the radio. Peres' statements hinting at a partial withdrawal were criticized by Israeli "security elements" cited by *MA'ARIV*, who claimed that such remarks are weakening Israel's bargaining power vis-a-vis the Shi'ite population of southern Lebanon.

Syria-USSR-PLO

President Hafiz al-Asad's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union will be "decisive" in restoring normal relations between Syriaand the PLO, according to Arab diplomatic sources in Moscow cited by KUNA. There are "indications" that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit the USSR after Al-Asad to discuss the PLO'S relations with Syria and its internal differences, KUNA added.

PLO-ALGERIA

PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir met with the Algerian foreign minister for talks on the latest developments in the Palestinian situation, including the efforts of Algeria and the PDRY to create an "appropriate climate" for convening the PNC, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Meanwhile, the FLN Politburo has decided that Algeria will host the PNC session, according to a PLO source in Amman cited by WAKH.

Iraq

Iraq will "study" its relationship with the United States after the presidential elections, President Saddam Husayn declared in an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* cited by INA. Husayn went on to assert that Egypt "must not remain in its current situation" but should have relations with Arab states on an "enlightened basis removed from wagers and unprincipled policies," or else the Arabs will suffer the consequences. Speaking of the Gulf war, Husayn predicted that the Iranians will launch another attack, but he said a surprise factor would be almost impossible.

Meanwhile, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* warned that since "some governments have behaved irresponsibly" in helping Iran to obtain arms, Iraq has no choice but to tighten the siege on Khark Island and destroy any ship violating the siege, regardless of its identity, INA reported.

Saudi-Brazilian Arms Sales

In addition to signing the protocol on military-industrial cooperation, negotiations are under way for the sale of Brazilian rocket launchers, armored vehicles, planes, warships, and other weapons to Saudi Arabia, the Brazilian paper *O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO* disclosed.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 199 *12 October 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Barialay Inspects Weapons Seized From Rebels ..... C 1
Rebels in Various Provinces Surrender ..... C 1
Kabul Radio Assesses Pakistan Situation ..... C 1
French Journalist Appears at Press Conference ..... C 2
BAKHTAR Reports News Conference ..... C 2
Kalakan NFF Chairman Reports on Village Councils ..... C 2
DIE WELT on New Soviet Tactics in Afghanistan *[Bonn DIE WELT 10 Oct]* ..... C 3

BANGLADESH

Ershad Comments on Martial Law, Elections ..... D 1
Khaleda Zia Says Ershad Should Resign *[Delhi]* ..... D 1
Indian Daily Speculates on Coup Attempt *[Delhi PATRIOT 1 Oct]* ..... D 1

INDIA

Gandhi Scores Pakistan Nuclear Program, U.S. Aid ..... E 1
ISI Reports Air Attack on Indian Ship 11 Oct ..... E 1
Arms, Ammunition Recovered From Golden Temple ..... E 1
Defense Minister Meets With Swedish Counterpart ..... E 1
Embassies To Investigate U.S. Message to Pakistan ..... E 1
Heavy Water Plants Ensure Self-Sufficiency *[Calcutta THE STATESMAN 29 Sep]* ..... E 2
New 5-Year Trade Agreement Signed With CSSR ..... E 2
Gandhi Friendship Offer to PRC, Pakistan Hailed ..... E 2

PAKISTAN

Zia Says Law, Order Situation Improves ..... F 1
Foreign Minister on Desire for Good Indian Relations ..... F 1
Scientist on Peaceful Use of Nuclear Technology *[Karachi JASARAT 30 Sep]* ..... F 1
Joint Commission With Italy Concludes Meeting ..... F 2
DAWN on Political Developments *[5 Oct]* ..... F 2

IRAN

Montazeri Discusses University Problems With Officials ..... I 1
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,877 ..... I 1
Revolution Guards Depart for Battlefronts ..... I 1
'Large-Scale Departure' Continues ..... I 1
Commentary on Iraqi Attack on Liberian Tanker ..... I 1
PRC Agriculture Minister Arrives in Tehran ..... I 2
Iraq Executes Muslim Soldiers, Pilots ..... I 2
Diplomat Cited on Peaceful Solution to Gulf War *[Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 10 Oct]* ..... I 2

Barialay Inspects Weapons Seized From Rebels
LD112038 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, candidate memberand secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo this morning inspected assorted weapons that have recently been seized from the counterrevolutionaries as a result of the heroic operations by the country's Armed Forces. He praised the vigilance and courage of those troops and officials who have heroically fought the counterrevolutionaries in protecting the gains of the April revolution.

During his inspection of these deadly weapons, Mahmud Barialay was accompanied by the head of the central zone, the Kabul governor, the secretary of the party provincial committee and some commanders from the Armed Forces. Necessary instructions were given by the commander of the 8th division during the tour.

A BIA correspondent reports that during a successful operation mounted recently by the security forces in the Shakar Darreh Paghman, Mir Bacheh Kowt Gol Darreh, Bagrami, and Khak-e Jabbar districts [Kabul Province] not only were a number of the rebels crushed, but a number of them were captured along with their Chinese, US, Egyptian, and Pakistani weapons.

The seized weapons include more than 800 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, 45 DShK's, 300 ground-to-ground missiles, 5 recoilless guns, 5 mortars, 5 ZK-1S, 4,250 kilos of explosive substances, 20 rocket launchers, more than 260,000 rounds of assorted ammunition, stocks of communication tools and equipment, stores of medical equipment and foodstuffs, weapons chaches, and leaflets and documents proving their links with counterrevolutionary bands outside the country.

Rebels in Various Provinces Surrender
LD112136 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] A 17-man group of our compatriots who were deceived by the hostile propaganda of the enemies of revolution and who joined the counterrevolution, have realized the righteousness of the April revolution and the DRA's humanitarian policy and have surrendered to the security forces in Herat Province.

Expressing repentance at their past actions, they promised not to lay down their weapons until the counterrevolution has been totally eliminated and nationwide security maintained.

A BIA correspondent, quoting a security forces spokesman in Jowzjan Province, reports that a 12-man group of our deceived compatriots surrendered recently to the security forces in Jowzjan Province and promised to defend the gains of the April revolution with their lives.

A BIA correspondent reports that recently, as a result of a successful operation mounted by the security forces in the Khwaja Alwan area of Baghlan Province, a number of counter-revolutionary elements were crushed and a quantity of assorted weapons and antistate leaflets were seized which prove the link between these highway robbers and murderers and foreign enemies of the homeland.

During a successful operation carried out by the courageous security forces in Karez and Poshdod, Farah Province, 97 of these madmen belonging to the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami group,including their ringleaders Jagran Alauddin and Shah Muhammad, who were disrupting the peaceful life of the local people, were crushed. A total of 4 rocket launchers; 3 U.S. and Chinese machine guns; 59 assorted weapons; and 10 trucks were seized from these lunatics.

During this operation a large quantity of enemy weapons and equipment were destroyed.

Kabul Radio Assesses Pakistan Situation
LD111603 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 0735 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] Listeners of Radio Afghanistan know that recently the situation in Pakistan has become tense and critical. Let us assess the reasons for disturbances in Pakistan.

General Zia, the military ruler of Pakistan who, in 1977 usurped power in a military coup, imposed a dictatorial military regime on the people of that country. The military government, in over 6 years of rule, has not refrained from exerting various sorts of pressures on the national-democratic forces, parties, progressive organizations, and liberation movements. Several times the people of Pakistan were promised elections, but the promise was not kept.

General Zia with his self-made laws, distorted shari'a Islamic laws and exploited then in the interest of the military goverament and for the consolidation of his dictatorship. Religious leaders and true Muslims were subject to persecution and torture by the agents of the military government; in their place pro-General Zia religious leaders entered the scene.

For Pakistani women too, the military government cooked their goose contrary to Islamic and human laws, and enacted new legislation under which the women of Pakistan were deprived of most of their rights and privileges.

During this dark reign, the military government tried to pressure political parties in Pakistan one after another; it consistently pressured their leaders, even imprisioning and torturing them.

The world has witnessed many disturbances in Pakistan during the recent months — demonstrations by lawyers, criticism and demonstrations by religious leaders, strikes and demonstrations by journalists and intellectuals, a nation-widedemonstration by the MRD which is composed of all parties opposed to the Pakistani regime; finally recently fresh hostilities between the Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims escalated, as a result of which a number of people were killed and dozens of other injured.

Observers of the situation in Pakistan believe that the militarist regime of General Zia deliberately fans such disturbances in

order to postpone once again Pakistani elections that were promised for next year, and thus extend its despotic rule. He knows that if there were free elections, he would never be ruler of Pakistan and he would be punished for his numerous crimes committed against the poor people of Pakistan.

The new trick of Gen Zia, in which he utilizes the old English policy divide-and-rule in Pakistan, indicates that his regime wants the people of Pakistan, before thinking of freedom and overthrowing the military government, to fight each other and shed each other's blood. Thus, Gen Zia and his militarist clique continue their bloody rule. However, Gen Zia, whose politics are fed by the White House in Washington and London, has not realized that the rusty weapon of divide-and-rule of the Western capitalist bosses has lost it shine and will not work. The Pakistani Muslims soon discovered the trickery of the blood-sucking militarist regime and, instead of growing hostile against each other, turned out against thousands of armed troops and police equipped with tools for persecuting and brutalizing the people. They proved that the unity of the people of Pakistan in destroying the government of Gen Zia is unbreakable.

French Journalist Appears at Press Conference

LD111711 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] Jacques Abouchar — a French national who on 18 September of the current year was captured during his illegal and secret entry to the DRA territory in order to carry out illegitimate activities and collect information having no connection whatever with his apparent profession — was brought before a press conference of domestic and foreign journalists and was questioned by the journalists in a free and democratic atmosphere.

The complete reportage of this news item will be published by the mass media in the future.

BAKHTAR Reports News Conference

LD120913 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] Kabul, October 11, BAKHTAR — A press conference of Jacques Abouchar, French TV reporter was held here today. Answering questions he confessed that accompanied by a group of Afghan counter-revolutionaries he illegally crossed the border and entered the territory of DRA from Pakistan on September 17. After a heavy exchange of fire between the DRA border guards and the counter-revolutionaries, 20-km inside the DRA territory in Qandahar Province, as a result of which some of the DRA border guards were wounded, he was arrested.

Abouchar confessed that it was his second attempt to covertly and illegally enter the territory of the DRA. [words indistinct] attempt, he was accompanied by an Afghan counter-revolutionary band with two trucks full of weapons and ammunitions and wanted to enter the DRA territory via Herat Province, but he did not succeed in doing so.

Abouchar said that during his staying in Pakistan he met with Esmat Muslem and Gailani, the members of the criminal bands of counter-revolutionaries.

Responding to the question of journalists, Jacques Abouchar, negated that he was engaged in spying activities. However, documents presented at the press conference contradicted his denials.

Replying to the question that according to Western mass media he was wounded, Abouchar said that it was the first time that he heard here at the press conference to have been injured during the arrest.

Addressing the audience, the representative of the security forces of the DRA said that Abouchar illegally entered into the territory of the DRA with the cooperation of the counter-revolutionary bands which violated the laws and regulations of the country.

The covert and illegal entrance of Jacques Abouchar to Afghanistan, where in the Western countries they try to conceal the real nature of his mission is another proof of the continuation and intensification of interference, provocations and aggressions against this country on the part of imperialism and reaction, stated the declaration of the BAKHTAR Information Agency circulated at the press conference.

Kalakan NFF Chairman Reports on Village Councils

LD102041 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 0205 GMT 10 Oct 84

[Text] Here is a summary of an article entitled "The Formation of a Revolution Defense Group in Kalakan," published in the first edition of the daily *ANIS:*

Haji 'Abdol Samad, chairman of the Kalakan subdistrict council of the DRA National Fatherland Front [NFF], said: This council, formed in November-December 1983 within the framework of the Mir Bacheh Kowt district council of the NFF, has so far been able to create village councils in the villages of Aqa Saray, Rowah Gosh, Dughbad, and Moshwani. The Kalakan council has formed security posts in the villages of Haji Ahmad Khan, Khalifah 'Aynu, Qal'eh-ye Haji Abdol Shokur, Aqa Saray, Haji Yar Muhammad, Qal'eh-ye Hakim, Khalifah Sher Muhammad, Qal'eh-ye Mawlawi Abdul Ghaffar and the Moshwani, in which a total of 300 people has been organized. NFF members are among this number.

During the current year the subdistrict council has opened six literacy courses in various parts of Kalakan including the villages of Haji Yar Muhammad and Haji Ahmad Khan, the Poshdel mosque of Pol-e Charkhi, Qaryeh-ye Sar-sarak, and Antaraf-e Deh.

The council has formed a revolution defense group in the subdistrict headquarters itself, in which 22 people have been organized. The aforementioned group, in addition to maintaining the security around the subdistrict headquarters, also maintains the security of the road.

DIE WELT on New Soviet Tactics in Afghanistan

DW101507 Bonn DIE WELT in German 10 Oct 84 p 6

[Walter H. Rueb article]

[Text] Shortly before the end of the 5th year of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, intensified warfare involving the use of more material and troops indicates Moscow's intention to solve the Afghanistan problem militarily. All observers agree that since Andropov died and Chernenko took over, the advocates of a political solution to the Hindu Kush conflict have lost. "I believe Chernenko has given a signal to end the war as quickly as possible without concern for losses," an expert on the situation told a member of the Swiss Eastern Institute [Ost-Institut]. "Chernenko is not unknown in Turkestan. His career began there with the GPU, the predecessor of the KGB. He was ambitious. It is said that he strangled wounded Muslims with his own hands to gain the attention of political officers. He believes in violence and nothing else," the expert said.

The Red Army's intensified warfare is characterized by new tactics. Two aspects of these tactics can be noted immediately by an observer: extensive pattern bombing and well-prepared offensives with strong units in the country's interior.

For 4 years, the Soviets limited their activities to controlling Afghanistan's large cities, airports, and military bases, as well as the country's ring highway that is important for the movement of supplies. Only occasionally were air attacks used to punish villages and towns for attacks in their vicinity against Soviet tropps.

Now, entire villages and towns are being flattened through extensive destructive actions from the air. In the Panjsher valley in the spring of 1984, the Soviets conducted their first action using the new method of combat. This summer, Herat and a dozen neighboring villages in the western part of the country were destroyed by area bombing. The exact number of victims is not known, but it is certain that they numbered in the thousands. This tactic was repeated in the Lowgar valley south of Kabul and in the large city of Qandahar. The Soviets hope to decisively strike the civilian population with their new tactics so as to destroy the basic foundations of life supplies to the resistance.

The largest Soviet offensive following the new pattern took place in the border province of Paktia. Some 14,000 Soviet soldiers tried to relieve three bases belonging to the Karmal army and the Red Army that were surrounded by freedom fighters. The Soviet troops received heavy air support, with MI-6, MI-8, and MI-24 helicopters taking part in the fighting.

Helicopters ensure that supplies are brought to encircled Soviet units. However, since they must fly at great altitudes to avoid being shot down by guerrillas' missiles or crashing because their rotor blades are destroyed from above [as published], part of the supplies regularly falls into the hands of the mujahidin.

In addition to the destruction of centers of resistance, there was another reason for the Soviet offensives in Herat and Paktia Provinces. The Russians wanted to cut off the infiltration of resistance fighters from neighboring Iran and Pakistan. Although most observers doubt that the Soviets will be able to seal the borders tighly, there are some Afghans who are less convinced in this respect. One man told the Swiss Eastern Institute that "because of increased reserves, it is now possible for the Soviet Army leaders to consider closing the borders with Iran and Pakistan. The Soviets were able to tighly seal their own borders from the Black Sea to the Pacific. Extending the borders by a few thousand kilometers is a matter of divisions, military equipment, and KGB control. There is no lack of all that in the Soviet state even if everything else is lacking," the man said.

Even after almost 5 years of war, the Afghan restistance fighters lack almost everything needed to combat tanks and helicopters. Only occasionally can surface-to-air missiles be used, and where they do exist, their handling causes problems for the members of the resistance movement. At the same time, the Russians are testing their newest and most modern weapons: the MI-26 helicopter and the TU-81 tank.

According to information gathered by several guerrilla groups, the Soviets have recently been putting Afghan children into action. Proof of this was provided by 12-year-old Muhammad Nahim in Gerhard Loewenthal's ZDF Television Network program. The child was amazingly skilled at handling Chinese and Soviet submachineguns, and he had amazing military knowledge.

The Afghan boy is a graduate of a military course for children soldiers held in a camp in Soviet Samarkand. At that camp, he learned to creep up on the enemy, to throw hand grenades, and to kill people. According to Nahim, the Soviets have several children soldiers in action in Qandahar.

In Peshawar, Pakistan, Afghan guerrila leader Abdul Haq said that over the past 6 months, his men had caught about 20 children soldiers. He said they were 8-15 years of age, trained by the Soviets for espionage and killing, and armed with pistols. The mujahidin face a difficult problem in view of this new Soviet tactic: how are enemies to be treated who are still children?

The guerrillas of Kabul and the surrounding areas do not have such problems. Over recent days and weeks, they have become noted for numerous attacks against government buildings belonging to the Karmal regime, against Soviet forts and garrisons, and against the Baghram airport north of the capital.

According to observers, the mujahidin have been able to establish a number of military positions with light and heavy weapons on the outskirts of Kabul. Despite actions by Soviet paratroops, the freedom fighters have been able to hold their positions in front of the city. Eyewitnesses say that the intensity of the fighting recently in Kabul surpasses that in the countryside. However, according to these eyewitnesses, there is an important difference: The mujahidin are the attackers in and around Kabul.

Ershad Comments on Martial Law, Elections

BK111806 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad has appealed to the opposition parties to participate in the coming parliamentary elections in order to facilitate the transition to democracy. He was addressing a mammoth public rally at Dhaka's Manik Mia Avenue this afternoon. President Ershad said that if the political parties participate in the coming elections, then the existing district martial law administrators' offices will be withdrawn starting the day they file their nomination papers. Offices of the subzonal martial law administrators will be withdrawn 15 days later. He said that 15 days after this, the post of the deputy chief martial law administrators will be abolished and from that day all the martial law courts will be revoked. The president said that simultaneously, the fundamental rights stated in Article 102 of the Constitution and the writ of jurisdiction of the high court will be reinstated.

He noted that the massive post-flood relief and rehabilitation program is continuing in the country, and that the members of the Armed Forces are involved in this task. This is why the zonal martial law administrators will have to be involved in this task until the elections. The president said that they will also be recalled after completion of this responsibility; they are sincere about establishing a democratic government in the country. Gen Ershad expressed the hope that the people will help in the effort to establish democracy.

In this context he said that with the gradual relaxation of martial law, there will be practically no martial law in the country. There are only a few martial law regulations to run the administration, and the remaining ones are gradually being withdrawn.

Addressing the mammoth rally, the president said that the task of withdrawing martial law will be completed with the convening of the first session of Parliament. The Parliament session will be convened as soon as the national elections are over. He said that it will be very unfortunate for the nation if the country's major political parties do not come out for holding elections. In this context, the president warned against creating trouble and hampering law and order in the name of movements.

Gen Ershad said that there will be no alternative to continuing martial law if the elections are boycotted. If this happens, implementing the program of gradually relaxing martial law will also not be possible.

The president said that it is his sacred responsibility to establish democracy in the country. But it is also the politicians' responsibility to assist in establishing a democratic government through participation in the elections. He said that by announcing the date of elections, he has fulfilled his responsibility.

In this regard, the president said that if holding elections becomes impossible due to a lack of cooperation from the political parties, then he will have to complete some unaccomplished tasks. One of these tasks is the holding of subdistrict elections during the coming winter, elections which were postponed earlier due to the opposition of the political parties. Another task is to launch a campaign against antisocial, corrupt and miscreant people. Gen Ershad repeated his call for everyone to unite in assisting in the peaceful transition to democracy from martial law.

On the formation of a neutral government, he said that the [words indistinct] martial law; his government is completely neutral.

The president gave assurances that the coming elections will be free and impartial. The Armed Forces are not the constituent of any party, but the (?sacred) asset of the entire nation. For this reason, he rejected as groundless any apprehension of interference in the elections by the Armed Forces.

Among others, the rally was also addressed by the prime minister, Ataur Rahman Khan, and the minister of labor and manpower, Shah Moazzem Hossain.

Khaleda Zia Says Ershad Should Resign

BK110656 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, the leader of the 15-party opposition alliance, Mrs Khaleda Zia, has said President Lieutenant General Ershad should resign as army chief, if he wishes to join the active politics. Mrs Khaleda Zia is reported to have questioned the president's right to address political rallies since he is an active lieutenant general in the Army.

Indian Daily Speculates on Coup Attempt

BK120427 Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Oct 84 p 1

[By "our special representative"]

[Text] Calcutta, Sept 30 — Had there been another attempt to stage an armed coup in Bangladesh recently? And behind the coup attempt had there been the hands of the same forces who carried out the bloody coup of 15 August 1975?

These questions were being raised in various circles in Dhaka following the seizure in Italy of a ship carrying contraband arms, and the subsequent raids by the army and police in different places in Bangladesh and the arrest of some former Army officers, seizure of documents and arms. These activities were particularly noticed in Dhaka and Chittagong. There was patrolling by the Navy on the sea routes connecting Bangladesh as well.

According to information available here, detectives in Bangladesh are at the moment trying to trace Colonel Farooq (rtd), and Colonel Rashid (rtd). Both these former Army officers were involved in the coup of 1975 in which Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family and friends were murdered. Police suspect that at least one of these retired army officers is hiding somewhere in Bangladesh.

In the meantime police arrested Colonel (rtd) Shariar Rashid from his village home at Kushtia. This retired army officer was allegedly involved in the August 1975 coup. Another person who was arrested is Major (rtd) Bazlul Huda. Shariar is now a leader

of a new political party recently formed, and Huda is a member of the central executive committee of the Democratic League led by Khandkar Mushtaq Ahmad, who was made the President of Bangladesh following the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Khandkar Mushtaq is also at the moment not being found in Dhaka. According to his family circles he had gone to his village home in Comilla.

It is reported that a number of other former army officers and leaders of some political parties of the same colour as the Democratic League have gone into hiding.

It may be interesting to take note of the recent events in sequence. On 2 September the *ITTEFAQ*, a pro-establishment daily in Dhaka reported that a ship carrying contraband arms was seized by the naval intelligence squad of Italy when the ship was in Italian waters. The ship was chartered for the port of Chittagong and it was hired under the names of two Bangladesh citizens. On 5 September *SANGBAD*, another daily in Dhaka reported that the said ship was hired under the names of Colonel (rtd) Farooq and Colonel (rtd) Rashid. The paper also reported that the Interpol after making preliminary inquires informed the Bangladesh Government of the whole thing. On 12 September the Government of Bangladesh gave out that the ship named *Viking* under the flag of Panama was seized by Italy off Sicily. The ship carried forbidden cargoes — illegal arms. Seven foreigners were arrested by the Italian authorities. Not one of these arrested persons belonged to Bangladesh, the Dhaka authorities added.

The intriguing point here was that the Bangladesh Government neither confirmed nor denied whether the ship had been hired by Colonel (rtd) Farooq and Colonel (rtd) Rashid. This omission created further confusion and speculation.

Significantly enough, the Bangladesh Navy later seized four sea-going trawlers which were also subjected to thorough search. According to sources in Dhaka, illegal arms might have been found in those trawlers, which spreads the suspicion that the fishing trawlers were also used by the conspirators to bring in illegal arms into the country. The question is: Had these trawlers been operating independently or in league with the hires of the Panamanian ship?

The two retired colonels — Farooq and Rashid admitted some time ago that they had been involved in the bloody coup of 15 August 1975. They along with others fled the country following the coup of 3 November. Subsequently former President Ziaur Rahman gave jobs to at least 12 of the perpetrators of the crime of August 1975 in various legations of Bangladesh in a number of foreign countries. But Farooq and Rashid just declined the offer of foreign service. Instead they stayed on in Libya. Retired officers Shariar and Bazlul Huda (who were recently arrested) were appointed in Bangladesh Embassy in Indonesia and High Commission in Pakistan respectively. Huda and Shariar left their posts in a hurry following the coup attempt in Bangladesh in June 1980 and the Foreign Office did not know anything about their whereabouts. Subsequently these two returned to Bangladesh and joined two political parties.

On the other hand Farooq and Rashid came back to Bangladesh repeatedly.

Gandhi Scores Pakistan Nuclear Program, U.S. Aid

BK111634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister has stated that Pakistan's nuclear program has brought about a qualitative change in our security environment. Mrs Gandhi was addressing the biennial Army commanders conference in New Delhi today. Referring to the continued military aid to Pakistan by the United States, she said this is being done in spite of the ostensible concern shown over the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the evidence compiled by Americans themselves about Pakistan's nuclear program. There is also a pattern of collaboration among certain countries in regard to overall strategic objectives in our region. All this has to be taken into account in our defense planning.

Mrs Gandhi said the induction of foreign agencies in Sri Lanka is also a matter for concern. The prime minister declared that India's primary security problem is to safeguard the development process in various fields from the turbulence around our nation. India poses no threat to her neighbors. We have repeatedly declared that India has a vested interest in the stability, strength and prosperity of its neighbors, she said.

Referring to the deterioration in the relations between the great powers, Mrs Gandhi welcomed the recent resumption of the dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union. She expressed the hope it would be sustained and lead to a general relaxation of tension. In this connection, Mrs Gandhi mentioned the peace initiative taken by the nonaligned nations. She said the five-continent peace appeal had evoked positive response. About a 100 members of the U.S. Congress also endorsed it.

Turning to the internal situation, the prime minister called for vigilance and firm action against the activities of subversive and extremist elements in the Northeast and Punjab. Firm action has to be combined with the campaign to educate the people about the pernicious and false views propagated by the extremists. She was pained at the disparaging remarks made in some quarters about the Army. This seems to be a part of the wider campaign to demoralize our defense forces. She stressed the need for modernization of the defense forces and mentioned of several steps taken in this direction. She also referred to the measures taken to improve the welfare of officers and men of the Armed Forces.

The defense minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, underlined the imperative need for vigilance and full defense preparedness in view of the changes in the security environment. In this connection he referred to Pakistan's feverish efforts at modernization and the expansion of its defense forces and its ceaseless quest for acquiring nuclear capability. He also referred to the recent developments in Sri Lanka and our relations with Bangladesh. There has also been no major breakthrough in our relations with China, though the recent official level talks had ended on an optimistic note.

Earlier, the Army chief, General Vaidya, assured the prime minister that the Army is operationally prepared.

ISI Reports Air Attack on Indian Ship 11 Oct

BK121324 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0841 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] An unidentified aircraft bombed an Indian ship *Jag Pari* on 11 October about 100 kilometres away from Bahrain. This has been reported by REUTER quoting shipping intelligence sources in London. Report says one seaman was injured but there was no serious damage to ship. Aircraft dropped four bombs, of which one hit vessel which was bound for Bahrain.

Arms, Ammunition Recovered From Golden Temple

BK120705 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Excerpts] In Amritsar, kar sewa [voluntary community service] involving desilting of the holy sarovar [tank] in the Golden Temple starts this morning. The five Sikh head priests in consultation with Baba Kharag Singh nominated the Panj Pyaras [five Sikh head priests] to inaugurate the kar sewa. A Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] Committee [SGPC] spokesman told our special correspondent, P.J.S. Trehant, that the historical golden spades and bowls will be used by the Panj Pyaras for this purpose. These implements were used in similar kar sewas in 1923 and 1973. The kar sewa will start from near the Beribaba Buddha Sahib at 1100.

Some arms and ammunition were recovered from the bed of the holy tank of the Golden Temple during the dewatering operations yesterday. These included one foreign made tommy gun, one hand grenade, and about 30 rounds of ammunition. Two big gold leaves were also recovered. Arms and ammunition were handed over to the security forces and the gold leaves to the SGPC.

Defense Minister Meets With Swedish Counterpart

BK110730 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] India and Sweden have agreed to cooperate in research and development and technology transfer in defense. The defense minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, held wide-ranging discussions with the visiting Swedish defense minister, Mr Anders Thunborg, in New Delhi. The minister of state for defense, Mr K.P. Singh Deo, and a team of senior officers of the Defense Ministry and the three service chiefs were present. The Swedish defense minister was assisted by a 4-member team from his country.

Embassies To Investigate U.S. Message to Pakistan

BK111620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] The government has asked its embassies in Washington and Islamabad to ascertain whether the U.S. President, Mr Reagan, has sent a communication to Pakistan offering a nuclear umbrella. This was stated by a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi today. He was responding to queries on the report carried by the Pakistani Urdu daily *NAWAI WAQT*.

In a dispatch from Washington the Pakistani newspaper quoted sources close to the White House that Mr Reagan had assured special arrangements for Pakistan's security in return for abandoning the nuclear weapons program by Islamabad.

Heavy Water Plants Ensure Self-Sufficiency

BK091539 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Sep 84 p 6

[From our special representative]

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 27 — It looks as if India has turned the corner in respect of heavy water production.

Two heavy water plants, at Baroda and Tuticorin, are said to have lately shown a significant improvement in their performance. Both were, until recently, afflicted with interruptions in availability of feed gas and power, reduced gas availability and its deuterium content, and constraints in the plants due to outages of equipment and machinery.

Remedial measures have been taken, and the Tuticorin plant has now exceeded its targeted production.

Besides the Baroda and Tuttcorin plants, each with 45 tons production capacity per annum, there is another plant in operation, at Nangal. The oldest plant, but with the limited production capacity of nine tons per annum, it is also chronically affected by restricted availability of power.

The precise production figures of the three plants is not known: the Government told Parliament some time ago that "it is not considered to be in public interest to disclose the production figures".

The government added, however, that the capacities of the existing and the planned heavy water plants were such as to ensure self-sufficiency in heavy water for the country's nuclear power programme.

Two new plants, at Kota and Talcher, are due to be commissioned. The Kota plant, with 85-ton capacity is actually in an advanced stage of commissioning. The Talcher plant is still undergoing tests. Its effective capacity has not been specified.

Two other plants are under construction, at Thalvaishet and Manuguru. The first has a capacity of 110 tons and the second 185 tons.

Quite a few more are evidently being planned — although only one additional project with an effective capacity of 110 tons has been announced — to meet the requirements of the long-term nuclear power programme. It consists of 12 units of 235 NWE and 10 units of 500 NWE size, clearly all of them of the pressurized heavy water reactor type.

Each of these will require a substantial initial supply of heavy water to get started, and some amount each year subsequently — about 12 tons in the case of 235 NWE plant — to make up for operating losses.

New 5-Year Trade Agreement Signed With CSSR

BK111249 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] India and Czechoslovakia have signed a new 5-year trade and payment agreement beginning from 1985. A press release issued in New Delhi today says that agreement was signed during the recent visit to Prague by the minister of state for commerce and supply, Mr S.M. Krishna. The agreement provides for increase trade between the two countries and cooperation in the third country markets. Both sides have agreed to identify new fields of economic cooperation, development, and better utilization of resources and production facilities on mutually beneficial basis.

Gandhi Friendship Offer to PRC, Pakistan Hailed

BK111536 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Ragunath Raina commentary]

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has reiterated India's offer of peace, friendship and cooperation to China and Pakistan. She said in Jaipur that by entering into a pact of peace and friendship, there would be no cause for conflict between India and her two neighboring countries. The Indian prime minister pointed out that Pakistan's no war pact proposal was confusing because it had come after Pakistan had obtained from outside a huge quantity of modern sophisticated offensive weapons. Mrs Gandhi said that India had proposed a pact of peace, friendship and cooperation to both Pakistan and China to avoid any armed conflict but the response had not been encouraging. Mrs Indira Gandhi's reiteration is consistent with India's foreign policy which the country has been following ever since independence.

The main features of this policy are nonalignment, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, peaceful coexistence and friendship with all countries of the world, especially her neighbors. As a matter of fact, even before independence Jawaharlal Nehru had declared and we quote: We believe that peace and freedom are indivisible and that we seek no domination of others and we claim no privileged position over others.

India's policy of peace has been conditioned by many factors. The most important is her history of freedom movement. Another consideration which has moulded India's policy is her endeavor to raise the economic condition of the people and ensure social justice for them. India's democratic system and parliamentary form of government in which public opinion plays an important part is yet another factor for India's policy of peace. It is because of all these factors that India has successfully maintained very good relations with her neighbors, barring a few unfortunate exceptions.

India's relations with Burma are based on complete understanding. There are no problems between the two countries. The two share similar or identical views on major problems of the area, nonalignment, and Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

India's relations with Sri Lanka are equally good in spite of the recent ethnic upheaval in that country. Although a large number of people are of Indian origin, India has scrupulously avoided any interference and has instead extended help to defuse the situation in Sri Lanka. Similarly, although large-scale illegal migration from Bangladesh into adjoining India state has created very complex problems for India, she has consistently tried to sort them out peacefully.

Nepal is a close and friendly neighbor of India. The two countries have an open border for movement of goods and for travel. India has always deemed it a privilege to contribute to the economic development of that country. Another important neighbor is Bhutan. This Himalayan kingdom is making very rapid progress, both internally and externally.

Geography has placed India and China together as neighbors. Whatever may be their differences or disputes there are reasons to believe that the people of the two countries wish to live in peace as good neighbors. India was among the first to recognize the People's Republic of China in 1949. India consistently supported China's admission to UN and continues to hold the view that China was kept out of UN too long and this kept alive avoidable tension. Border problems have existed between many neighboring countries. They had settled such problems through peaceful means. There is no reason why India and China should not be able to do the same. The relations between the two can be based on the basis of the five principles of coexistence — Panchasila — which these two countries were the first to subscribe to. As early as 1946 Jawaharlal Nehru had said: We approach the world in a friendly way. We want to make friends with all countries.

This has been India's approach to Pakistan as well, although India has been the victim of three aggressive assaults by Pakistan. After the 1965 war, the two countries entered into the Tashkent agreement. Despite India's best efforts Pakistan refused to implement the provisions of the agreement. After the 1971 conflict, it was India which declared unilaterally the ceasefire on the western front. India on her part continues to pursue the goal of peace, stability, normalization, and amity in the subcontinent with seriousness and persistence. India believes that peace in the subcontinent is neither an impossible ideal nor an avoidable one. India's proposal to Pakistan and China for a pact of friendship, peace and cooperation is based on India's determination to establish a framework of durable peace in this part of the world so as to realize the objective of world peace and human progress.

Zia Says Law, Order Situation Improves

BK111429 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said the overall development work in Sind during the last few years has been satisfactory while the future development program has been identified and would be implemented in phases. The projects to be given priority are in the sectors of waterlogging, drinking water, transport, and education. He was addressing a news conference in Karachi this morning at the conclusion of his 4-day visit to the province.

As far as law and order situation was concerned, he said some improvements had been achieved as a result of the measures taken by the government. The president regretted that the sanctity of Muharram al-Haram was marred every now and then. He said he met the ulema both in Sukkur and Karachi and impressed upon them the need to maintain peace, harmony, and tranquillity during the sacred month.

In reply to a question, the president reiterated that the government was fully aware of the situation around Pakistan's borders. Pakistan's policy, he added, was the maintenance of peace within and outside. He said there was no cause for worry if the nation was wide awake and the country was internally united. He said, as emphasized by him on a number of occasions, the defense of the country rested with the 90 million people of Pakistan.

In reply to another question, the president said most of the basic steps for the Islamization of the society had already been implemented. As far as elections and national security were concerned, he said both were important. He said there were elements in the country which were trying to harm the unity and stability of Pakistan. The government was also aware that these elements were being assisted from outside.

Replying to yet another question, the president said Pakistan has no designs against India. It has all the sympathies with them and hoped that they would be able to cope with their internal situation so that both the countries could live in a good neighborly fashion.

Foreign Minister on Desire for Good Indian Relations

BK110446 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has reaffirmed Pakistan's sincere desire to establish tension-free relations with India. This reaffirmation came during a meeting with the Indian ambassador to the United States, K.S. Bajpai, who called on him in Washington yesterday. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan also expressed the hope that the process of normalizing relations between the two countries will be resumed soon. The officials later said that the talks were held in a friendly atmosphere.

Scientist on Peaceful Use of Nuclear Technology

GF080850 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 30 Sep 84 p 1

[Excerpts] Karachi, 29 Sep — The Pakistani scientist of so-called atomic bomb fame, Dr Abdul Qadir Khan, has said that anti-Islamic countries, especially Israel and India, were aware that Pakistan had perfected the process for enriching uranium in just 7-years time and that now Pakistan, if it wanted to do so, was able not only to make an atomic bomb, but hydrogen bomb as well. However, Pakistan has no intention of making such a bomb as it intends to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Dr Abdul Qadir Khan said that the uranium enrichment process took Britain, West Germany, and the Netherlands 25 years to develop and they spent some $2 billion on experiments. Japan spent some $650 million on a somewhat smaller project in this connection, while the United States plans to spend $10 billion on such a plant expected to be completed by 1989. It was with God's help and the selfless dedication of Pakistan's scientists who worked day and night that Pakistan forged way ahead of Indian nuclear technology. Dr Abdul Qadir Khan expressed these views in an exclusive interview with Editor Jalees Salasal of the *'ALAMI ISLAMI DIGEST* magazine.

Dr Abdul Qadir Khan further said that Israel and many other Western countries do not want Pakistan to make progress in nuclear technology. Their attitude is quite inimical. Everyone knows how Iraq and Libya were treated when they tried to develop in this field. The Iraqi scientist Yahya al-Mashiyeh was murdered in broad daylight in the Morid Jamal Hotel in Paris. Israel bombed and destroyed the Iraqi atomic reactor. Now, there are schemes against Pakistan. It is feared that Pakistan's nuclear capability could be useful to the Muslim world.

Dr Abdul Qadir Khan said we do not want to achieve nuclear technology for use against any country and that President Ziaul Haq has repeated assurances that Pakistan wants only to develop nuclear technology for meeting future energy needs for our development programs. The president suggested 2 years ago that India and Pakistan could inspect each other's nuclear advances jointly, to which India has yet to reply. India exploded its atomic bomb on 18 May 1974 and was getting technological help for its reactors from Canada. While doing so, India claimed to adhere to its policy of nonviolence; but in fact it was paying all its attention to the making of arms in this field. India is indeed ahead of Pakistan in certain departments of nuclear technology. This is because former Indian Prime Minister Pandit Nehru had set up an atomic energy commission much earlier and assumed its chairmanship himself. The Indian nuclear program was set up on a sound basis much earlier. In Pakistan little attention was paid to this matter. However, when Dr I. H. Osmani, a learned physicist, was appointed chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, he set up two centers — the (Nelurehen) center and the Karachi Nuclear Power Plant (KANUPP). He also sent several scientists and engineers for studies abroad. All this was done because we lagged far behind India in this field. Now it is for us to narrow the gap as soon as we can. It is a matter of pride, said Dr Abdul Qadir Khan, that he was working with a team of dedicated colleagues. He said that the main hurdle in this field had been the lack of funds, lack of resources, and lack of technical experts. More attention had to be paid to the matter

of technical experts, he said. Another hindrance was the bellicose attitude of the developed countries which refused to transfer their technology. This attitude stems from their enemity toward Islam, he said.

Dr Abdul Qadir Khan said that the Indian prime minister and Dr Sethana are misleading their people when they say that Pakistan is a danger to India. How can Pakistan be a danger to India when Pakistan, unlike India, is getting no cooperation from other countries? He said that our nuclear program is peaceful and the enriched uranium produced at the Kahuta plant is to be used as fuel in light water reactors for producing energy.

In reply to a question on what his role would be were Pakistan to be attacked, Dr Abdul Qadir Khan said that, God willing, he will not disappoint the Pakistani nation. He said that his similar reply on a previous occasion was misinterpreted in the Western countries, and it has been said in the Western press that Pakistan had already developed the atomic bomb. But, Dr Abdul Qadir Khan said that if any Pakistani soldier had been asked a similar question he would have answered that he would die for his country, trying to save it at all costs. His reply was also very similar to that of an ordinary soldier of Pakistan, that defending the country was his duty.

Joint Commission With Italy Concludes Meeting

BK091630 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Oct 84

[Text] Pakistan and Italy have signed a memorandum of understanding in Islamabad that identifies various areas of bilateral cooperation. This followed the conclusion of the first 3-day session of the Pakistan-Italy joint commission in Islamabad today. The session particularly discussed increasing the trade, economic, and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides agreed there is wide scope for Italian cooperation in agricultural technology, railways, and energy fields, especially in power generation, with Pakistan. In addition, views were also exchanged on the training of Pakistani engineers in Italy, development of marble industry and Italian technical assistance in archaeology. Italy has agreed to consider these proposals sympathetically. The two sides reviewed the pace of work of Italian-assisted ongoing projects in Pakistan and expressed satisfaction over it. They also reviewed the volume of trade between Pakistan and Italy.

DAWN on Political Developments

GF081402 Karachi DAWN in English 5 Oct 84 p 14

[Editorial "Lights and Shadows"]

[Text] The release from detention of important political leaders like Air Marshal (Retd.) Asghar Khan, Mr Aftab Sherpao and Mr Nasirullah Khan Babar at this time is susceptible of more interpretations than one. Also it is possible to read too much or too little into the latest instalment of freeing of prominent political figures from detention from prison or from house arrest, the previous one being in April this year.

Leaving aside such conjecturing for the present, one must take into account what is unmistakable: the timing of the release, which, without doubt, seems to be the most important factor and on that account alone the government's decision to set the leaders free deserves to be appreciated as being well-judged and appropriate. The release has taken place at a time when the country's frontiers are again under pressure — more seriously perhaps than for a long time.

Since August last particularly, border and air space violations, involving wanton bombings and shellings across the Durand Line and inflicting heavy losses of life and property, have assumed almost a sinister pattern. If developments along the eastern border are not as grim as on the north-western, the overall situation is not such as to justify a relaxed feeling. In fact, in recent months there have been official pronouncements in New Delhi as well as reports of developments on the eastern border and along the line of control in the occupied Kashmir which cannot be viewed with equanimity in this country.

Neither can one completely slur over speculation in a section of the U.S. and Indian press, suggesting a possible 'planned' Indian air attack to destroy Pakistan's nuclear research facilities. The overall border scenario is, thus, not one that can either be taken lightly or wished away as of not much concern. Indeed, knowing the prevailing mood of concern and anxiety among the people on this score, it is important for the government at this stage to take the nation into confidence over the nature and possible implications of the situation that has been in the making for quite some time along the country's northern and eastern borders. Where national security is concerned, there simply is no room for withholding the truth from the people for any length of time or doing any spot of mystery-making, for whatever reason or logic.

That kind of approach may recoil at times and do incalculable harm to the cause of security itself. A pressing need at this stage, therefore, is to define the precise threat or situations the country faces on its two borders and what must be done to avert or meet any contingencies that may arise. In specific terms, what is called for is for the government to brief the leaders of opinion on the border situation and take into account their views on the issues and on the options open to the country. Whether any threat is imminent or not, it is highly desirable, in dealing with matters of national security, to keep the major segments of opinion in the picture, so as to rule out the possibility of uninformed complacency or a mood of exaggerated fear setting in.

In any case, as the chief of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal has forewarned in one of his just published press interviews, it would be unwise to allow any ambiguity about the border developments or to make the likely shadows of these developments on the country's internal situation as a ground for delaying, once again, the promised elections.

We do not know if the present strategic environment is one reason, among others, for the release of some political leaders. Be that as it may, this environment is, if anything, an added reason for clearing the air and helping the country regain its sense of direction. There is an urgent need for ending the continuing uncertainty and suspense of the promised elections and the

changes contemplated in the political system prescribed by the constitution.

With hardly six months to go before the entire electoral process is to be completed as promised under the August 12, 1983, plan, it is somewhat disconcerting that even some of the fundamental aspects of the proposed polls and the future pattern of governance should remain wrapped in mystery yet. It is vitally necessary for the government to spell out its final position on the basic political and electoral questions that are still undefined and, as such, are a focus of endless speculation.

It is equally important to announce the final polls schedule without further delay, so that there is confidence all around about the prospects of elections being held as promised. In fact, once the schedule has been made public, it would be advisable for the government to try to ascertain the views of the party leaders on the basis of elections, mode of participation, eligibility and, above all, the future political system.

Technical reasoning and casuistry apart, the basic argument is for the planned elctoral process to inspire confidence, be credible and for its outcome to be nationally accepted. The contraexample is the fate of the 1977 polls whose results were rejected and overturned by the people simply because certain aspects of the exercise were allowed to be tarnished by a resort to rigging.

To foreclose any such horrendous possibility, it is prudent for the government and party leaders to make it possible to close the gulf of misunderstanding and try to resolve the controversial political and elctoral issues in a spirit of mutual accommodation, realism and shared national concern. A climate favourable for such exchanges will, indeed, be helped if the remaining political and party leaders, such as Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, Mr Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, Mr Rasool Bux Paleejo and Mr Mairaj Mohammad Khan, are also set free without delay. However strong the differences may have been between the government and these leaders on specific matters, the fact remains that without exception they all are mature and responsible public figures with strong patriotic instincts and commitment.

To be sure, they can be trusted at this critical juncture to play a responsible and meaningful role in putting the country back on the assured ground of democratic evolution and stability. The essential prerequisite is a spirit of mutual trust and confidence and in that spirit, to approach the task of national reconciliation and to break the barriers of mutual mistrust and antipathy which, unfortunately, hold the electoral prospects and the nation's political future in the balance.

Montazeri Discusses University Problems With Officials

LD111302 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] A session of the board of trustees and governors of the Imam al-Sadiq University was held yesterday with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri attending. Ayatollah Meshkini, Ayatollah Madavi-Kani, the chancellor of the University, and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani also participated. There were detailed discussions and exchanges of views on various university problems. The secretary for the session reported on the implementation of Imam al-Sadiq University's current plans, the setting up of future lecture programs, and plans to strengthen the university's financial credit with the aid citizens and financial group in our society.

Then, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's latest suggestion on instituting Islamic education classes for our Palestinian brothers, the problems of implementing this suggestion, and steps which Imam al-Sadiq University will take to begin this project were discussed. Then, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri expressed appreciation to the members of the university's board of trustees and governors, saying: In conjunction with the plan for expelling Israel from the United Nations, it would be appropriate to think about our Palestinian brothers and arrange to further acquaint interested Palestinian youth with the religion of Islam, instead the materialistism and atheism of the East and West, by setting up a college under the name of Al-Quds [Jerusalem]. With cooperation between the government and the esteemed responsible officials of the Imam al-Sadiq University, this important step can be translated into action.

It was also decided that later sessions should make the final decision on means of government cooperation on this issue.

During the past few days, the Friday imams of Meymeh and Rezvanshahr in Najafabad, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's representative in Martyr Beheshti University, and the deputies to the Islamic Consultative Assembly from Ramhormuz, Urumiyeh, Salmas, Naqadeh, and Miando'a also held separate talks with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,877

LD111702 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 11, IRNA — All Iraqi attempted air raids against the operational regions of Piranshah and Sar Dasht, in the north-western theatre, were immediately repelled by the fire of the Iranian air defence units over the 24 hours preceding Thursday, said the 1,877th Joint Staff command communique issued the same day.

It added that the Islamic combatants, firing on the enemy forces' positions during fire exchanges between the two sides in the said theatre, checked the Iraqis' fire and logistic activities particularly on the Chuman Mostafa and several other heights in the region.

In these operations, several Iraqi troops were killed or wounded by the Iranian defenders who also demolished some enemy frontlines and group bunkers.

In the western border fronts of Bakhtaran Province, the Islamic forces maintained their superior fire-power as well as routing enemy patrols by means of heavy artillery fire. The Iranian defenders fired on Iraqi strongholds in this theatre, smashed one enemy mortar launcher, two group bunkers, three lookout posts, one munitions depot as well as killing or wounding more Iraqi soldiers.

Some Iraqi patrol elements spotted in the Sumar region of Bakhtaran Province at 22:30 hours local time (19:00 GMT) Tuesday were immediately suppressed by the timely fire of the Islamic combatants, said the communique.

Further down, in the southern theatre, artillery fire exchanges persisted, being more intense in the area of the Anbar River and on the Majnun Islands, during the aforementioned time. Iran's Gendarmerie forces barraged enemy positions beyond the Arvand River destroying four Iraqi armament emplacements with their occupants.

The Joint Staff command communique further said that four more homes were damaged as a result of the Iraqi long-range artillery fire on Abadan's residential quarters on Wednesday.

Revolution Guards Depart for Battlefronts

GF111736 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report from Shahr Kord, a group of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps from Borujerd and its suburbs and resistance camps left for the battlefronts of right against wrong this afternoon.

'Large-Scale Departure' Continues

GF120518 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] The large-scale departure of our country's valiant combatants to defend sacred Islamic territories and beat back the aggressive Zionist Iraqi regime continues.

In this regard, during the past few days, a large group of noble members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the provinces of Bushehr, Yazd, Kerman, Gilan, Mazandaran, and Eastern and Western Azarbaijan, and from the cities of Arak, Yasuj, Semnan, Zanjan Karaj, Tehran, Shahr-e Kord, and Shiraz left for the fronts of the war against the Zionist enemy.

Commentary on Iraqi Attack on Liberian Tanker

LD111347 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Text] Iraq's recent attack on an oil tanker in the Persian Gulf and its international repercussions are the subject of today's political commentary.

The international repercussions of the recent Iraqi attack on a Liberian tanker in the Persian Gulf demonstrate that the world

can no longer remain indifferent towards Saddam Husayn's stupid acts. Since last year when the regime ruling Iraq intensified its attacks on commercial ships in the Persian Gulf, its expectation and that of the Western world was that those attacks would put an end to the our country's Khark Island oil exports, exerting great economic pressure upon Iran and ultimately forcing us to negotiate a compromise on the war.

Not only did Iraq adhere to this analysis, but Western countries and even the Arab littoral states of the Persian Gulf also reached the same conclusions. At the beginning Iraq attacked some tankers of the Arab states of the Persian Gulf; yet by their silence they accepted the continuation of the Iraqi attacks.

At the same time, by expanding the scope of the war in the Persian Gulf, the Iraqi regime was trying to extend the land war to northern and southern fronts of our country and the sea war to other countries of the region. In view of the previous positions adopted by those countries, Iraq was confident of their support.

On the basis of those assumptions, Iraq intensified its attacks on the tankers going to or coming from Khark Island. However, as previously, this strategy also produced no results. After a time, the losses inflicted by Iraqi attacks were not confined to tankers carrying our oil; tankers carrying Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti oil were also damaged. This led others to conclude that the flames which had been kindled by Iraq would engulf them too.

On the other hand, perhaps the most important factor in the defeat of the Iraqi strategy of attacking tankers in the Persian Gulf is the fact, admitted by the entire world, that our oil exports continue at the same level as before the Persian Gulf crisis. The attacks on the tankers had no effect upon our oil exports.

First, the regime of Saddam Husayn did not succeed in limiting our oil exports through such attacks; second, the other Arab governments of the Persian Gulf littoral states, apart from Iraq, realized that the continuation of this dangerous game bring losses to them. Under those conditions, Western governments also realized that they had to reassess their positions about the crisis in the Persian Gulf.

At the beginning of this crisis, the American and French Governments strongly supported the Iraqi position. All the Western countries had adopted a position similar to that of the Persian Gulf Arab states . However, the continuation of the crisis in the Persian Gulf has only one result, namely, damaging the tankers of neutral countries and killing or injuring the subjects of countries far beyond the Persian Gulf and the Middle East. The recent attack on the Liberian tanker and the killing and wounding of a number of British and Chinese subjects and one Indian is the best proof of this. The governments could not remain indifferent about the death of their subjects. Nevertheless, it is quite clear that Saddam Husayn's regime cannot refrain from adventurism in the region and the expansion of the crisis, thus providing the necessary excuse for the intervention of foreign powers in the Persian Gulf. At the same time, all the people of the world will know that the Iraqi regime has an adventurist, criminal, and aggressive nature and that there is only one way to put an end to its adventurism — its downfall and destruction.

PRC Agriculture Minister Arrives in Tehran

GF120613 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] According to our correspondent, a high-level economic delegation from the PRC, led by Mr He Kang, the PRC minister of agriculture, animal husbandry, and fishery, accompanied by the vice minister of the Fishery Department and the director-general of the PRC international cooperation organization [as heard], arrived in Tehran in response to an invitation by our country's agriculture minister. They were welcomed at the airport by Mr Zanganeh, the reconstruction crusade minister, and the acting ministers and deputy ministers of the ministries of reconstruction crusade and agriculture.

The PRC minister of agriculture, animal husbandry, and fishery spoke to our correspondent after landing at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport and said that the objective of the delegation's visit to Tehran was to convey the message of the PRC State Council based on understanding, an expansion of political and economic relations between the two countries, the exchange of agricultural experiences, and acquaintance with the research plans of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, and fisheries. He said: The PRC has extensive experience in agricultural industries and training over a period of 35 years since the revolution, and at present exchanges scientific and research [technology] in the field of agriculture with 80 countries of the world.

On the basis of this report, the PRC delegation will meet and hold talks with the prime minister, agriculture minister, the foreign minister, and industries minister of our country during their stay.

Iraq Executes Muslim Soldiers, Pilots

GF120845 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 12 Oct 84

[Text] More than 550 Iraqi Muslim military personnel have been killed by the Iraqi regime following their arrest. This was a result of the recent efforts of the Muslim Iraqi people to overthrow Saddam Husayn's regime.

Reports say that 30 pilots, 20 officers, and 500 Iraqi soldiers were killed by the Iraqi regime.

Diplomat Cited on Peaceful Solution to Gulf War

GF111612 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 10 Oct 84 pp 1, 18

[Text] New York — An Iranian diplomat yesterday conveyed his country's desire to reach a peaceful political settlement of the war with Iraq in order to preserve security and peace in the Gulf region, to preserve the interests of the other countries that are affected indirectly by the war, and to put an end to the dangers affecting international navigation in the Gulf. The diplomat — who is a member of the Iranian delegation to the United Nations

— said that he picked up a number of indications reflecting his country's intentions to seriously consider any initiative launched by those countries whose interests and rights are affected by the war and which do not present any form of political and economic aid to Iraq. The Iranian diplomat told *AL-RA'Y Al-'AMM* that his country's government is in no position to enter into direct negotiations with Iraq. He added: Any initiative to be presented by any regional or international organization must include a just verdict with regard to the acts and the activities carried out by both sides to the issue.

The Iranian diplomat, who preferred to remain anonymous, pointed out that the Iranian Government never conceived — nor will it ever do so — jeopardizing the interests or rights of the Gulf countries. He added that the prevailing impression that Iran intends to launch a political or ideological war against Gulf countries was the outcome of successful propaganda by Iraqi information media. He said: I would like to further state that Iran had no intention of toppling the ruling regime in Iraq and that Iran's interest in Iraq reflected the Iranian people's religious and cultural inclination toward Iraq. This can be attributed to the fact that the holy shrines in Iraq made it the third qilbah [place which has extreme Islamic religious significance] after Mecca and Jerusalem.

The Iranian diplomat emphasized that these truths were recently conveyed to numerous officials in the Gulf countries during the recent tour undertaken by an Iranian delegation to a number of the region's countries and during the talks held with officials there. He pointed out that the said Iranian delegation conveyed other views and facts that he cannot discuss.